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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

Donn K. Harms, Esq.  
12702 Via Cortina Suite 100  
Del Mar, California 92014

In re Patent No. 6,221,836 :  
Issued: April 24, 2001 :  
Application No. 09/213,968 : **ON PETITION**  
Filed: December 17, 1998 :  
Attorney Docket No. 1207-003D :

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(e) filed October 21, 2011, requesting acceptance of the 3.5-year and 7.5-year maintenance fees for the above-cited patent.

The petition under 37 CFR 1.378(e) is **granted**.

The patent issued April 24, 2001. The 3.5 year maintenance fee could have been paid from April 24, 2004, through October 24, 2004, or with a surcharge, as authorized by 37 CFR 1.20(h), during the period from October 25, 2004, through April 24, 2005. The 3.5 year maintenance fee was not paid; the patent expired at midnight on April 24, 2005.

Petitioner has established that the delay in paying the 3.5-year and 7.5-year maintenance fees was unavoidable.

The 3.5-year and 7.5-year maintenance fees in this case are hereby accepted.

Any inquiries related to this decision should be directed to Kenya A. McLaughlin, Petitions Attorney, at (571) 272-3222.

Anthony Knight  
Director  
Office of Petitions